No. 2.

CONTINUATION

OF

LETTERS

FROM

SUSSEX EMIGRANTS,

IN

UPPER CANADA,

FOR

1833.

PETWORTH:
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FOR THE INFORMATION OF EMIGRANTS.

Office of his Majesty's Chief Agent for the superintendence of Emigrants in Upper and Lower Canada.

Quebec, July 16th. 1833.

There is nothing of more importance to emigrants on arrival at Quebec, than correct information on the leading points, connected with their future pursuits. Many have suffered much by a want of caution, and by listening to the opinions of interested designing characters, who frequently offer their advice unsolicited, and who are met generally about wharfs and landing places frequented by strangers. To guard emigrants against falling into such errors, they should, immediately on arrival at Quebec, proceed to the Office of the Chief Agent for Emigrants, in Sault-au-Matelot street, Lower Town, where every information requisite for their future guidance either in getting settlement on lands, or obtaining employment in Upper or Lower Canada will be obtained *gratis*. On their route from Quebec to their destination they will find many plans and schemes offered to their consideration, but should turn away from them unless they are well satisfied of the truth of the statements;—on all occasions when they stand in need of advice they should apply to the Government Agents.

Emigrants are informed that they may remain on board ship 48 hours after arrival, nor can they be deprived of any of their usual accommodations for cooking or berthing during that period, and the master of the ship is bound to land the emigrants and their baggage *free of expence* at the usual landing places, and at seasonable hours.

Should they require to change their English money, they should go to some respectable merchant or to the banks: the currency in the Canadas is at the rate of 5s. the dollar, and is called Halifax currency; at present the gold sovereign is worth 24s. currency, at Montreal. In New York, 8s. is calculated for the dollar, hence many are deceived when

From Henry Smart, who went from Kirdford; directed, Mr. James Napper, Kirdford; but containing on the same sheet, letters to other persons.

Ancaster, 1st. March, 1833.

To JAMES NAPPER.

This comes with my kind love to you, hoping it will find you well, as it leaves me at present. I received your letter on the 12th. February. I received it a month sooner than I expected. I received it as I was riding up the town with the esquire. I was sorry I could not write more to your satisfaction before, but I mean to do it now. As I describes the country to you, I describes it to one and all. This is a very fine country, and plenty of room. I don't persuade any one to come out, but if all the labouring folks in Kirdford was here, they would not want to go back again: for my part, I don't mean to come back again, to bide. Labouring people's wages here, is six shillings per day, this money: or three shillings and six pence your money. In hay and harvest time, they get five or six shillings per day your money. We don't do as you do in your country; wherever we work, we live. If they hire by the month first coming in, they will get from 8 to 10 dollars; and after they have been here some time, they will get more. Single men that hire by the year, will get from one hundred dollars to one hundred and twenty. I have been up the country 120 miles, where all our old parishoners are settled, nearly altogether. They have all draw'd their land, and all settled upon it; but they are pretty much in the bush, at present. They have all got 100 acres of land, apiece, at 2 dollars an acre. There is no money wanting for the first 3 years; and after that, they must pay interest for it. I have been up and draw'd mine, but I am not gone to it, nor am not sure as ever I shall. I draw'd mine in the township of Warwick. There is so many people gone up there, that things are very dear, but they have not wanted for any thing, as Government helped them to provisions. Wheat up there fetches one dollar per bushel, but down here 'tis only 3s. 6d, your money. Meat here is 2½d. your money, per lb. There is not a great deal of cheese in this country, and not so good as it is at home: it is too new: but plenty of every thing else. There are bears and wolves in this country, but not so many as you have been told; there is no danger of them; they are very seldom seen; and they never trouble any person. I saw one bear, one

morning about 2 o'clock before me, but I did not know what it was; but about a week ago, I saw one tied up at a gentleman's house, and then I knew what it was. This is generally a very level country, and very good land; but we want some of the English farmers, to shew them how to make the most of it: they let their manure lay in the barn yards, till they are obliged to hoist their fences. The fences in this country are made of rails: there is no hedges, ditches or posts.

To Sarah Baker.

I have not seen William, but I have heard from him by Tom Thomas: he is very well, and doing very well, and working on his land: and Tom Thomas desires to be remembered to all his friends: he is very well, and his family is very well, and likewise his brother's family. There is neither of them that desires to come to England again; and Tom desired me to tell you, that he would not come back, if they was to lay him down a hundred pounds. I fully agree with him; for if any body had a hundred pounds there, they might soon spend it; and here they may soon find a way to get it.

To Charles Rapley.*

Your brothers and sisters are all well: there is three of them at service, and the others are doing very well on their land, and not in want of any thing at present. By your orders, I sent word up to them, if they got really in distress, they should send to me; but if they get through this winter, I think they will be better able to help you, than you will to help them, if you live there.

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This comes with my kind love to them, hoping it finds them in good health, as it leaves me at present. I was very glad to see their letter, but I should have been more so to have seen them. I shall live in hopes of seeing Thomas Whitington and his family, in the spring, and likewise Eliza-

* *The father, James Rapley, a widower, who went out in 1832, with 7 children, died soon after his arrival, and the relations at home fearing the family would be in distress, had written to offer assistance.*

T. S.

beth Puttock, or any the rest of them that likes to come; but I don't expect any of them has heart enough to come: but if any of them do come, I will do the best for them I can, upon their first coming in; or for Charles Street, James Napper, Thomas Baker. I don't advise any of them to go into the bush at first starting: I would rather they would come to me, if they feel inclined: they will be just as well for a year; and they won't see so many hardships. You need not bring much of any thing here, nor lay your money out for much new clothing to bring here; but if they go up in the bush, you can't take too much. If you intend to come here, when you get to York, you must come up to Hamilton, and not go to Lake Huron; and if you will write to me from Montreal, you shall be took to at Hamilton wharf, by the time you get there, any of they that I have mentioned. The winter is colder here, and a little longer: the summer is a little warmer. The summer don't begin here so soon as it does there. The days, in summer, are as much as an hour and a half shorter here, than they are in England; but, in winter, the days are much longer here than they are there. There's not difference enough neither in heat or cold, to make any difference to any body. So no more at present, from your absent friend,

HENRY SMART.

To Mr. Greatham.

I am very much obliged to you, for what you sent to me: I received it all safe; and likewise for what you had done for me before; and so are a great many others that I have seen. I think it was the best thing you could have done for the poor people of Kirdford, to send them out here; and so it will be if you send any more. If you send any more as you did us, give every one account of what they are to receive on board ship. A better lot of sailors than we had aboard, never need go on board a vessel; particularly the chief mate. No more at present, from your humble servant,

HENRY SMART.

To Charles Street.

I am happy to give a better account of Charles Newman, than I did before. I see him about a week after I wrote before, and what I said was all right: he left that place immediately, and he is now living in a very good place, in Hamilton, about 7 miles from me.

William Hastlett died of a billious fever: he laid ill only a fortnight.

March 4th. 1833.

Respected Friends,

I now take my pen in hand to write to you, hoping these few lines will find you in health, as it leaves me and my children, at present, thank God, for the same which is, and which I hope will come. You were in earnest to hear of my wife's decease, and how she was buried; and how me and my children is situated, in a strange country like this. That is true which you said about your daughter, we was in a strange country; but it is a country that me and her was likely to live happy, and enjoy our pleasant situation, where there is many of our country people, and all is likely to do well, if all keep their health. And about my wife being buried: she was respectfully buried, in a graveyard of a class of people called methodists, and was held by a great number of stranger friends to the place of her residence. And now I must speak of *(a word here is unintelligible)* my wife, I am to say, that she wanted for nothing, me nor my children wanted for nothing; and I hope that we shall never, by all appearance, want for any thing in this world, but that one thing before mentioned, my dear wife. But the Lord says we must go the way of all flesh. My children is in good places: my two girls is in [as] good places as the world can afford; and they are bringing them up like two young ladies: the people that they reside with, is people of great respect, and will keep them till they are 21; or till they have a mind to go away, to find a place for themselves. And my boy is at another place, about three miles from my girls; and he is going to learn to be a tanner and currier; and I think that it is one of the best places in the country; the people is so agreeable here. The people I am now among is Dutch, and English, in general. The place is called Waterloo, where I live, and my children. I am with the man that has my boy Charles, and expect to remain for some time: it will be likely that I shall remain there the remainder of my days.

Dear father and mother, I want you to write to me; and I want to send you some money in my letters that I send to you: the next, if I can get about it without having the money lost. I want you to send me a few lines back in the letter, to let me know whether Lord Egremont franks these letters; or how the money is paid when they come to me;

for it costs me very little or nothing, when I get them; and I want to know who pays the amount. So no more from me.

Give my best respects to all enquiring friends, and in particular them that enquire after my welfare.

THOMAS ADSETT.

Ancaster, March 8th. 1833.

DEAR FATHER, & MOTHER, BROTHERS, & SISTERS,

I take this opportunity of writing, hoping to find you all well, as it leaves us at present. George has been very ill, with the scarlet fever, but is better now. Dear father and mother, I wish I had you here, I could keep you from my labor, better than you can live at home. I expect to leave my situation about next Michaelmas, after getting the wheat in the ground: then I shall have one crop off, and another in the ground. Jane has left her first situation, and has got another, where she gets 3s. per week. Jane sends her kind love to grandfather, and grandmother, uncles and aunts; so does George, John, and Ann, and Henry. The children often speak of their grandfather, and grandmother. Please to remember me to Mr. Hampton, and tell him I am a great deal better off than I was at home, and plainly see I shall do better in time, please God to spare my health. Please tell him he might not take any notice of what people might say, that he persuaded me to come to America; for he never did persuade me: for he and Mr. Gibson, were the best friends I could find. I never took so much pleasure before. as I have done this winter, since I have known what it has been to work. We received your letter on the 15th. of February, and I hope they will write again as soon as convenient. I hope, my dear father and mother, they will send all the news they can, and let us know whether they know what is become of Hugh's wife. I hope my brother Hugh will take care, and do all he can for his children; and if any of them should think of coming to America, they will do better here than ever they will be able to at home: but tell them, never to leave England to come to America, saying I persuaded them. Dear father and mother, please send me word where my brother Charles is quartered now, and if he enjoys a good state of health. We should be very glad to

know, whether William Charman, my wife's brother, ever received our letter; as we have wrote two, and think it strange we never received any answer. Give our love to brother and sisters, and am very sorry to hear Eliza is going to get married again; but hope she will do well. We wish to know, whether you know where James and Edward Charman is, and how they are. Remember me to James Terry, and all enquiring friends about Sullington. Respecting Penfold, he is settled at Guelph, about 40 miles from this, and is doing very well: his wife died shortly after they got up there: he has since married his wife's sister, Eliza Brooks, only 7 days after the death of his late wife. I see Standen in Hamilton wharf, where we first came up, but have not heard of them since. Respecting the prices of things in America, wheat will bring a dollar in the summer, when the river is navigable, so that they can carry it down to Montreal; but in the winter it will fetch no more than 3s. 9d. or 4s. English money: barley ½ dollar; Indian corn ½ dollar; buck wheat ½ dollar; rye ½ dollar, per bushel. If any of you should come to this country, bring a few tares, as the people do not know what they are. A turkey will fetch ½ dollar; geese from 8d. to 1s.; fowls 7½d, English money; butter 7½d. in summer, 1s. in winter; tea 3s. 9d. or a dollar; cheese is very dear, 7½d. per lb. is the lowest price; whisky from 1s. 10½d. to ½ dollar. Give my love to my sister Elizabeth, and tell her if she thinks she cannot write a whole letter, to write a few lines of it, as it would give me a great deal of satisfaction. I should be glad to know whether father and mother lives with you, and I hope you will ever be kind to them, and do all in your power to comfort them. GEORGE & ANN HILLS.

This letter is wrote 8th. day March, 1833, by Charles Haines, of French Land, Ashington; and if you should see his father or mother, give his love to them, and brothers and sisters: tell them to send word where they are now, that he might write to them. CHARLES HAINES.

P. S. Let Mr. Hampton see this letter.

Here is not a great deal to shoot about here: I have only had one good shot, then I killed 17 pigeons at one shot. I have drawed 100 acres of land, at 2 dollars an acre, but think I will not go on it, as it is 100 miles from here: I think of getting some nearer here.

Adelaide, Upper Canada,
March 13th. 1833.

DEAR FATHER, & MOTHER, BROTHERS & SISTERS,

I take this opportunity to acquaint you, that I am in good health, and the country agrees with me very well; and that I have heard from you all on the first of March, by Henry Smart's letter, and rejoice to hear that you are all in good health. Dear father, I have got 100 acres of good land, as any in England, with a very good stream of clear water running through it. Now, my dear friends, if any of you will come here, and live with me, you shall have part of my land; or, if you choose, you may draw another 100 acres, and you will get 6 years to pay the money in; one third at the end of 3 years, and the rest in 3 years more; at 10s. per acre, as I have got mine. I have got about 2 acres for a spring crop. And William Rapley and I have got one yoke of oxen between us, to do our work, which shall be at your service also. We give about £10, in English money, for them; and I have got two good hogs, about nine months old, to fat after harvest, when I have got corn of my own; and I hope some of you will be here to help me eat them; for I am well sure that you can do better here, than any of you can in England: for, although every kind of provision is almost twice as dear as when we first came, even now, we can buy beef at 2d. per lb.; pork at 4d.; butter 7½d.; sugar from 2d. to 9d. according to the time of the year; tea 4s.; tobacco 1s.; flour 8d. per gallon; venison about 1s. 6d. per quarter. I have stated the price in English money, that you may understand it; but whisky, rum, and brandy, is very cheap; and beer is very dear. Farmers men get about £2. 10s. per month, and board, and lodging, and washing, and mending; and Government work is £3. per month, and board, all above sixteen years old; and under that half price. Cows from £2. to £6. each, oxen from £9. to £14. per pair, they are very small [horses] from £15. to £30. each, hogs from 1s. to 20 shillings each, sheep from 5s. to 7s. each, fowls 6d. each, ducks the same, geese and turkies 1s. each, guinea fowls the same. Dear father, be sure to bring me a hay cutting knife, but no other tools; for you can get them cheaper here: bring me some tares, about half a gallon of each sort, and a little lucern seed; swedish turnip seed, but

no white rounds; and all kind of garden seed; and one gallon of bents grass seed, and a little good barley, and a little nonsuch seed; and a clock; and all the money you can get: a farthing, or old plain halfpenny, and a penny piece are all the same value here; they are all called cents, and 100 of them makes a dollar; 4¾ dollars makes one sovereign; and 4 English shillings and 2d. makes one dollar. Dear father and mother, I am sorry to say that my sister Jane died at Prescot, with the Cholera; and I had it myself, but recovered; and little Frederick died at Hamilton, about a week after his mother. I was sorry I was not with her when she died; she seemed pleased with the country when I left her, at Montreal. I did not hear of her death for above two months, then I went above 100 miles, to a place called Ancaster, to find them, and saw Henry Smart. Dear friends, you will find the living very different on board of ship, from what you have been used to: you ought to get some good hams of bacon, and pickles, to eat after being sea sick, and good white biscuit, and a little spirits; and tell the farmers at Kirdford, that if it please God I have my health, in three year's time, I shall be as well off as John Downer, at Marshall's; though he used to cut such a swell over us at the meetings. James Joiner wishes to see his brother in law, William Covey, here. I conclude, with my kind love to you all, and remember me to all friends and acquaintances, and I remain [your] dutiful son,

WILLIAM BAKER.

Dear father,

It is very hot here in the summer, but the winter is no colder here than in England, as I can find; but there is a good deal more snow. We expects the winter to break up in a week or fortnight, at most. Answer this as soon as you can.

Direct to William Baker,

Township of Adelaide, 5th. Concession, Lot 18, South, District of London, County of Middlesex, Upper Canada, North America.

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hearing of the rates of labour, &c. 5s. in Canada is equal to 8s. in New York; thus 8s. New York currency, is equivalent to 5s. Halifax currency.

Emigrants arriving from the United Kingdom, and who wish to settle in Lower Canada, or to obtain employment, are informed that many desirable situations are to be met with. Wild Lands of superior quality may be obtained by purchase, on very easy terms, from the Commissioners of Crown Lands, in various Townships in the Province; and good farm labourers and mechanics are much in request, particularly in the Eastern Townships. At the Chambly Canal, several hundred labourers will find immediate employment. In every part of *Upper Canada* the demand for labourers and mechanics is also very great.—All labouring emigrants who reach York, and who may be in want of immediate employment, will be provided with it by the Government. The principal situations in Upper Canada, where arrangements are made for locating emigrants, are in the Bathurst, Midland, Newcastle, Home, London, and Western Districts.—Settlers with means, will have opportunities of purchasing Crown Lands in several parts of the Province, at monthly sales, information of which may be obtained on application at the Crown Land Office, York, or to A. B. Hawke, Esq. the Government Agent for Emigrants there, to whom they will apply on arrival for such further advice as they may require.

The following Government Land Agents are stationed in the Districts:—

Ottawa & Bathurst Districts, Mr. M'Naughton, Bytown,
Township of Seymour, Major Campbell,
Home District, Mr. Richie, Township of Sunidale,
Midland District, Mr. M'Pherson, Napanee,
Newcastle District, Mr. M'Donald, Peterboro.
London District, Mr. Mount, Caradoc.
Henry J. Jones, Sarnia, Western District.

Wild lands and improved farms can also be purchased in almost every district from the Canada Company, and private proprietors.

Emigrants proceeding to Upper Canada, above Kingston, either by the Ottawa or St. Lawrence route, are advised to supply themselves with provisions at Montreal, such as bread, tea, sugar, and butter, which they will purchase cheaper, and of *better quality*, than along the route. They are also particularly cautioned against the use of ardent spirits or drinking cold river water, or laying on the banks of the river exposed to the night dews; they should proceed at once from the

Steamboat at Montreal for Lachine, 8 miles above, from whence the Durham boats and Steam boats start for Prescot and Bytown daily.

Emigrants will obtain from Mr. JOHN HAYS, the Government Agent at Lachine, such advice and assistance as they may require, and they will find there a convenient barrack log house, where those wishing so to do, may remain for the night, and avoid exposure and the expence of lodgings. Mr. JOHN PATTON, the Government Agent at Prescot, will render every advice and assistance to emigrants.

Labourers and Mechanics dependant on immediate employment, are advised to proceed immediately on arrival into the country. The chief Agent will consider such persons as may loitre about the ports of landing beyond *one week* after arrival, to have no farther claim on the protection of His Majesty's Agents for assistance or employment, unless such persons have been detained by sickness, or can account for their detention by some other satisfactory cause.

A. C. BUCHANAN, Chief Agent.

ROUTES to the principal places in UPPER CANADA, are as follows.

Quebec to Montreal by Steamboats.—Montreal to Kingston by Prescot.

From ditto to Kingston by Bytown and the Rideau Canal.

From Prescot Steamboats and sailing Schooners ply daily to Kingston, the Bay of Quinti, Coburg, Port Hope, York, Hamilton, St. Catharine's, and Niagara. From St. Catharine's boats pass through the Welland Canal to Lake Erie and Western Townships; and from Chippawa above the Falls of Niagara, Steamboats and sailing Schooners are to be met with plying to all parts of the shores of Lake Erie. Persons going to Perth or New Lanark, or the vicinity, disembark at Prescot, or proceed by the way of Bytown on the Ottawa. Emigrants going any where beyond York or to the Home or Western District, will in general find it their interest to take that City in their route. If for Bytown, Grenville, Horton or other Settlements on the Ottawa river, will proceed from Lachine by the usual conveyances. The total expense for the *transport* of an adult emigrant from Quebec to York and the head of Lake Ontario, will not exceed from 20s. to 22s. 6d. currency, or 18s. or 10s. sterling.*

* This does not include provisions. T. S.

J. PHILLIPS, PRINTER.